Preservation of wild animals in A.P. Zoological Parks

2172. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is proper preservation of wild animals at zoological parks in Hyderabad, Vishakhapatnam and Tirupati;

(b) whether there is any plan to launch any scheme for adoption of zoological animals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are Government's plans to improve their preservation conditions?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Zoological Parks at Hyderabad, Vishakhapatnam and Tirupati are amongst the best managed zoos in the country.

(b) and (c) During the year 2000, the Government of Andhra Pradesh decided to involve the Industrialists, Philanthropists and Naturalists to sponsor the maintenance of the animals and garden areas of their choice. It was followed by orders of State Government permitting the 'Animal Adoption Scheme' to mobilize resources for better management and upkeep of the zoos. Wide publicity has been given for the scheme by the State Government. The sponsorship amount realised is deposited in Civil Deposits and utilised for the maintenance and development of the concerned Zoological Park.

(d) Does not arise.

Conversion of forest area of Dibrugarh and Tinsukia into sanctuary

2173. SHRI KA. RA. SUBBIAN:
PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert 500 sq.km. of forests in Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts in Assam into a sanctuary;